First Congregational
United Church of Christ

111 S. Wallace Blvd. Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(Mailing Address: P.O. Box 980413 Ypsilanti, MI 48198)
www.ypsiucc.org

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

April 16, 2023
10:00 am

“ Holy Language”
Second Sunday of Easter

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, You are welcome here!

WORSHIP ON ZOOM -- Zoom opens at 9:30 am Sunday morning.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7643282234

Meeting ID: 764 328 2234
Passcode: Ypsi1882
To join by phone, dial the number, 1-312-626-6799

- Welcome to Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC's Hybrid Worship Service
- Hymns are included in the worship bulletin. A separate hymnal is not needed.
- If you are joining worship for the first-time on Zoom, please add your name and email to the chat so the Zoomie Greeter can introduce you.
- Thank you for choosing to worship with us today!

OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT OF
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti celebrates everyone, including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identifies and expressions, family configurations, economic circumstances, physical, cognitive or emotional abilities, education or spiritual or religious traditions. All are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and missions of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe, nurturing community of faith. We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!"

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

RINGING THE BELL — **MARTY KLEINO**

PRELUDE — **"For the Beauty of the Earth"** — **VISHNU SRINIVAS**
By Conrad Kocher

WELCOME — **PASTOR LIZ**

- A warm welcome to all, including first-time visitors.
- As stated in our Open and Affirming Covenant (previous page), all persons are welcome in this community of faith.

ANNOUNCEMENTS — **PASTOR LIZ**

- **COMMUNITY SHARING OF OTHER ANNOUNCMENTS:**
  - The Worship Leader is **Ivan Harner**.
  - The Greeters are **Barbara Garland** (Roomie) and **Ellie Gusman** (Zoomie).
  - Pastor Liz and Ellie will introduce folks participating in worship.
  - Please share your announcements so everyone can learn what is happening in our beloved ministry community.
  - Please submit written announcements to Margaret Harner, Worship Coordinator, margaretsharner@gmail.com, by midnight on Tuesday.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

GATHERING HYMN *Microphone muted Standing or seated optional — **TAD WYSOR**

"Every Step of the Way"
66 SING

CALL TO WORSHIP *Responsive — **IVAN HARNER**

Leader: We have not seen the risen Christ;

People: But we see him in the lives of those transformed by grace.

Leader: We have not seen Jesus face-to-face;

People: But we have seen him in the faces of everyone whose love encourages us.

Leader: We have not touched the wounds from the cross;

People: But we have been called to bring healing to the scarred of the world.

HYMN *Microphone muted Standing or seated optional — **TAD WYSOR**

"Christ Rose Up from the Dead"
239 NCH

LISTENING FOR GOD

FIRST READING **Psalm 16:1-3 & 5-11** **IVAN HARNER**

SECOND READING **John 20:19-31** **PASTOR LIZ**

HYMN *Microphone muted Standing or seated optional **TAD WYSOR**

"Jesus, Sovereign, Savior"
255 NCH

MORNING MESSAGE **"Holy Language"** **PASTOR LIZ**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Pause Zoom recording

*Zoomies: Please turn on your microphone

You are invited to share your joys and petitions for prayer.
Please unmute your microphone to share a joy or make a prayer of petition.
At the end of each joy or petition, please say **"God in your mercy"**
We will respond (with microphones muted) **"Hear our prayers"**

PASTORAL PRAYER *Restart Zoom recording **PASTOR LIZ**

DISCIPLES' PRAYER *Unison with Microphone muted **PASTOR LIZ**

We lock the doors of compassion, God of Easter,
making it possible to share compassion only with those we believe to be deserving.
We harden our hearts to the cries around us,
because we cannot be completely sure of who is in need.
We close our eyes to the suffering around us,
believing it will all go away if we don't look.
Forgive us, Hope of the Ages.
Fill us with all the grace we need,
not because we are special, but because we are servants,
called to hold out our hands to all in need,
even as Jesus, our Christ, hold out his hands to us. Amen.

Use this moment of silence to offer your own prayers.

OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING **PASTOR LIZ**

Our electronic giving platform is Tithe.ly: Link to Tithe.ly

Please place in-person offerings in the gold offering place on the table by the door.

Checks can be mailed to:
First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERTORY **"Fairest Lord Jesus"** **VISHNU SRINIVAS**
By Richard Storrs Willis

DOXOLOGY *Microphone muted Standing or seated optional **TAD WYSOR**

"Take My Gifts" v,2, 562 NCH

Take the fruits that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed,
Harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God,
Spiced with humor, laced with laughter, flavor of the Jesus life,
Tang of risk and new adventure, taste and zest beyond belief

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *Unison with Microphone muted **IVAN HARNER**

We rejoice in the inheritance you have given us, O God,
and delight in sharing it with others.
You have touched our lives.
We want others to experience what we have experienced
with one another and with you.
To that end, bless these offerings. Amen.

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

CLOSING HYMN *Microphone muted Standing or seated optional **TAD WYSOR**

"The Day of Resurrection"
245 NCH

BENEDICTION *Microphone muted in Unison **PASTOR LIZ**

Leader: Jesus says to us again, Peace be with you. As God has sent me, so I send you.

People: We receive God's peace into our lives and will go where Christ sends us.

Leader: Feel the wind, the breath of God. Receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

People: We are empowered as disciples and apostles.
We will learn and serve in Jesus' name.

Leader: Go in peace. Amen.

POSTLUDE Please remain seated **VISHNU SRINIVAS**

"Immortal Invisible
By Walter Chalmers Smith

PASSING THE PEACE **FRIENDS GATHERED**

***Save Zoom Recording to Cloud (click "yes")**

- Share a greeting with others as we transition to our casual **Friendship Time.**

Zoom Only Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Rev. Liz Larrivee, Pastor & Spiritual Director
Tiffanie Waldron, Music Director
Vishnu Srinivas, Accompanist
Tad Wysor, Hymn Leader

Jenn Zibbell, MID Ministry Intern
Ivan Harner, Worship Leader/Greeter
Marty Kleino, Usher & Bell Ringer

YPSILANTI FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Worship Address:
111 S. Wallace Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Mailing Address:
PO Box 980413
Ypsilanti, MI 48198
734-482-6980
ypsiucc.org

ATTRIBUTIONS FOR TODAY'S BULLETIN

- **Cover Art:** Tim Gouw in *Unsplash*
- **Call to Worship, Disciples Prayer,** Thom Shuman, *Playing Hopscotch in Heaven.* (adapted)
- **Offering Invitation, Prayer of Dedication, Benediction:** Lavon Baylor, *Taught by Love* (adapted)

c

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For pastoral care needs and/or emergencies, please call or text Pastor Liz, 734-358-6108.

Worship Next Week: Worship Leader, Dan Kidder-McQuown; Greeters, Ivan Harner(Roomie) and **Jeanette Sherrill** (Zoomie).

Tad Wysor - Faith & Labor Collaboration. Tad will share work being done by the AFL-CIO, *Labor in the pulpit….* and how that relates to **the** alliance WeROC is forging between the faith community and unions locally, as well as WeROC's support of those struggling for fair working conditions and a living wage, as the GEO (Graduate Educators Organization) resorts to work stoppage.

April 30 - Our Immigration Story. It was 15 years ago on Palm Sunday afternoon in 2008 that immigration enforcement officials and local police converge on a large immigrant community in Ypsilanti. Agents forced their way into homes; people were beaten, and many arrested. Melanie Harner was at one of those homes and will re-tell the story which led to the call for justice for our neighbors. She will share the WICIR (the interfaith coalition) journey moving forward and the continuing struggle to realize justice and peace for immigrants among us.

Weekly Ypsi UCC Community Discernment Gatherings based on Susan Beaumont's book and bi-weekly Christian Contemplative Practices Sessions funded by our 2023 Vitality Grant have now concluded. Gratitude to all who participated and represented our larger faith community in this critical work during this liminal season of change, letting go, growth, and new possibilities. High levels of commitment and engagement to a collaborative, cooperative process of deep listening, prayer, meditation, and conversation have led to the creation of Ypsi UCC Mission, Vision and Values

Statements unique to our small, but mighty congregation. These statements will serve to guide our church leadership's decision making, resource allocation, programming, and strategic planning processes as we move forward together to the abundant future God desires for us. In addition, they represent a positive asset for future grant applications from the UCC and external sources.

Ypsi UCC Mission Statement

Having received God's expansive and unconditional love, we act in ways to extend God's love and care locally and globally, striving for inclusion in all its forms.

Ypsi UCC Vision Statement

We aspire to be a community of faith that builds on the gift of God's expansive, unconditional love. We persistently strive, with many others, to find real life ways to creatively use God's powerful instrument of love. With God, we seek to shape a caring community where ALL people can live their best lives, comfortable in a sense of belonging, participation, safety, and abundance.

Ypsi UCC Values Statement

Inclusion. We seek to be a bold place to belong and a courageous spiritual home where all persons feel accepted. Our exuberant welcome is grounded in our UCC Open and Affirming Covenant celebrating everyone--including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, family configurations, economic circumstances, education, physical ability, cognitive ability, mental health, and spiritual or religious background. We embrace language inclusive of our understanding of God and of each other.

Equity. Committed to building equity in all systems, we take action by working for Justice, Peace, and Creation Care in our surrounding neighborhoods and the wider world. We are challenged to learn and grow spiritually**,** to be sent out to serve in a diverse variety of personal, vocational, and community social justice and leadership settings**,** according to our spiritual gifts and unique sense of God's call.

Caring. Guided by biblical Scripture and Jesus' vision of radical, counter-cultural love, we share kindness and compassion by responding with generosity and respect. We connect with others to build strong relationships based on mutual trust, authenticity, and integrity.

Resilience. Grounded in faith and hope in an abundant future, we persistently and organically rise to the challenges in front of us by cohesively pulling together in times of adversity and struggle.

Innovation. We embrace change with creativity and optimism trusting God to open new doors. We take informed risks to experiment with progressive novel ways to worship and serve that honor being in partnership with each other and with our wider community.

UCC Covenant Association Spring Meeting

Covenant Association Spring Meeting Saturday, April 22, 2023
Earth Day 9:30-11:30 am Focus: Environmental Action as Christian Service
HYBRID meeting! at St. John's UCC, Jackson & on Zoom

Please contact Donna if you would like to register as a Ypsi UCC delegate. If you have any trouble registering using these links, please let Pastor Liz know and she will send you a copy of the April MI Conference Newsletter containing the original registration links. Thank you.

Zoom Registration Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMud-ChrzMrHtJT2O6deV_0RF5xThzJg5yi#/registration

In-Person Registration: https://drive.google.com/file/d/14_7ApJCs3-PdBXo9INTaBFNI1sxoryg-/view

Trauma Informed Care in Churches - for clergy and lay people

Trauma Informed Faith, Care, and Church
Thursday April 27 7-9 PM
A Webinar for the Michigan Conference U.C.C.
Featuring Dr. Mary Crnobori,
Coordinator for Trauma Informed Schools, Metro Nashville

In the face of a global pandemic, racial and social justice movements, acts of mass violence, political upheaval, and weather-related disasters, our communities need connection and hope more than ever before. Stress and trauma are pervasive in our high-paced, high-pressure modern society and, in the absence of essential protective factors, this can take a costly toll on our health and well-being. The impact on spiritual faith and faith communities cannot be underestimated either. Understanding and responding faithfully to the impact of this chronic trauma on us all is an essential element of ministry and a necessary component for the health of congregations and their settings.

In the first hour a comprehensive overview of trauma's impact including its effect on brain functioning and social emotional health will be presented.

In the second hour we will discuss practical strategies and offer models for church communities in trauma ministries.
A panel will feature MI UCC local pastors:
Rev. Rachael Bahr, Plymouth UCC, Grand Rapids
Rev. Liz Wilson, Immanuel UCC, Oxford
Rev. Lawrence Richardson, Salem UCC, Farmington

Click here to register:
https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0013bJQ92j2ZCtD9ZqyzH5pp5D9IgCsHKdzykaSvEAn2q2zxG0Su7kgXmeKQhDAIiUw1P4GRtxG5ulzocR9U1_FPCb5ypyltZ5jpSfgsBuqtrQOnzDj1O7ph0y7Ee9K1BweJceO3EDfa1iJk-pqBWoS9Mfq_BL0AqO5cvHApV8eGEMzCXkSi0nBxFJAQ7uZKCm-osK2FHcHfrofqSoSA_kf3VKGxtBgVs2z&c=AL1n3gr0ySnHkjyj_P9QDNcQte4LcoieCldu_INZ69xxMTOxsF4brQ==&ch=lipZqn-N4shHB_3WHuM2KWduJ_AXXftCmaqIfatJEFDKWdR_3vOVsA==

The Worship Team will meet on the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm via Zoom. Our next meeting will be Monday, May 8. The remaining 2023 Worship Team Meeting dates are June 12, Jul 10, Aug 14, Sept 11, Oct 9, Nov 13, and Dec 11.

Tiffanie Waldron will be performing in a recital as part of her doctoral program tomorrow evening. *An Evening of Duets, Trios & More: Opera, Musical Theatre & Oratorio!* will be at Northside Community Church, 920 Barton Dr., Ann Arbor, 48105, **7:30 PM.** The event is free. All are welcome!

OUR MINISTRIES

HOLY GROUNDS AND TEA FOR THE SOUL

During the Omicron (COVID) surge members of Ypsi UCC provided local coffee, tea, coffee cups, and single packaged snacks for the night shift at Trinity Health St. Joe Mercy Hospital where Rev. Dan Kidder-McQuown is the night chaplain. While the COVID crisis has partially resolved, the stress level of the night staff has not. Contributing factors include the long-term emerging effects of COVID, a lack of staff, a nation-wide nurse shortage, and staff burnout. The night shift greatly appreciates this ministry of hospitality and caring.

Please consider donating coffee that is roasted by local Michigan companies. Tea and single packaged candy or snacks are also welcome. Please contact Marty Kleino at Mgkleino@gmail.com or 734-262-1419 to have your donation delivered to St. Joes. If you would like more information about this ministry, please contact Dan Kidder-McQuown at mcq188@gmail.com or 517-240-8413.

THE BEACON CENTER

The **Beacon Center** is the community social justice of the Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC. As a light to all persons, the Beacon Center's ministry will support the spiritual formation, creative expression, overall thriving and advocacy of at-risk students of all ages, including those affiliated with three primary local institutions of higher learning: Eastern Michigan University, Washtenaw Community College and University of Michigan. In the Spirit of the UCC moto, "That They All Shall Be One", Beacon Center serves as a uniting and unifying umbrella across our congregation serving persons sources through our three other community social justice ministry networks. Those ministries (each detailed below) include WICIR (Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights) serving the immigrant communities, and WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition) which brings together faith, labor and community organizations to address local issues.

The Beacon Center is committed to advocate for self-determination and education for all people, especially students living in poverty, persons of color experiencing racism, and other de-humanizing circumstances and conditions. Beacon Center's student demographics include persons of color, immigrants, minorities, LGTBQ+ folk, women, those with special needs, the economically disadvantaged, those facing housing insecurity, the financially challenged, and the working poor. For additional information on the Beacon Center, please contact Rev. Liz Larrivee at lizlarrivee@gmail.com

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY – WASHTENAW INTERFAITH COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS (WICIR)

Since 2008, **WICIR** has been working with, and in support of, immigrants in Washtenaw County facing challenges of many kinds. At our inception the primary need that brought us together was to support people facing enforcement action by ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement); most often detention, deportation, and removal. To date, WICIR has responded to 650 calls. Always in partnership with folks most affected, many actions and services have evolved as identified by our immigrant siblings, while always keeping focused on our original mission:

To provide culturally sensitive and supportive urgent response to those in Washtenaw County in immigration-related crises; impact local governmental policies to empower and protect immigrant community members; and work toward humane national immigration reform.

Our outreach has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many in immigrant communities have experienced significant challenges as they struggle to pay rent, provide food for their families and other basic survival needs. To respond, WICIR, in partnership with Mexiquenses in Michigan (from St. Francis of Assisi Parish), has raised and distributed $200,000 relief funds to immigrants and their families. We have a waiting list of those still in need and will continue this effort as funds are available.

For information about what's happening with immigrant rights and **Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights**, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Melanie Harner at melharner@gmail.com or through the WICIR website: https://wicir.org/. You can also find a link on the church website.

WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION

First Congregational is a founding institution of the local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition)**. In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. WeROC members are, at our core, focused on intentionally re-weaving the frayed fabric of community at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated. Especially in this time when so many are being hit by the health and economic crises, WeROC's focus on raising voices of those most affected is more important than ever (See COVID-19 Resources at www.werocmi.org) WeROC's Mission Statement is:

WeROC brings together faith, labor, community organizations, and individuals to build the healthy collective power needed to break down the systems that sustain injustice, racism, and economic inequality.

WeROC is affiliated with the Detroit Metro organization MOSES and the Gamliel National Network. Contact Tad Wysor at tadwysor@gmail.com or 734-883-3225.

This past election year showed us good things can happen when we're working together in the same direction. WeROC is moving rapidly **forward** to keep momentum going and find ways to continue to be more effective together in making our communities healthier and more vibrant places; improving the lives of *everyone* in big ways-- especially those who are most vulnerable and whose voice have seldom been heard.

1/2

Every Step of the Way

♩=128 F C/E Dm C B♭ Dm/A C/G Gsus G
♩=128
7 Cmaj9 G/B Am Am/G Dm7 Gsus G
Help me do the jus - tice to be done to - day.
11 C G/B Am Am/G Dm7
Help me love kind - ness in all I do and say.

Words and Music: Christopher Grundy
Music arrangement: Christopher Grundy and Gregory Milton
Copyright ©2004 Local Church Ministries, United Church of Christ. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

2

14
Gsus
G
Em7
F
C♯dim
— Help me walk hum - bly with you,— O
17
Dm7
Gsus
G
F
God I pray— ev - 'ry step of the way,—
20
Dm7
C/E
F/G
C
— ev - 'ry step of the way.—

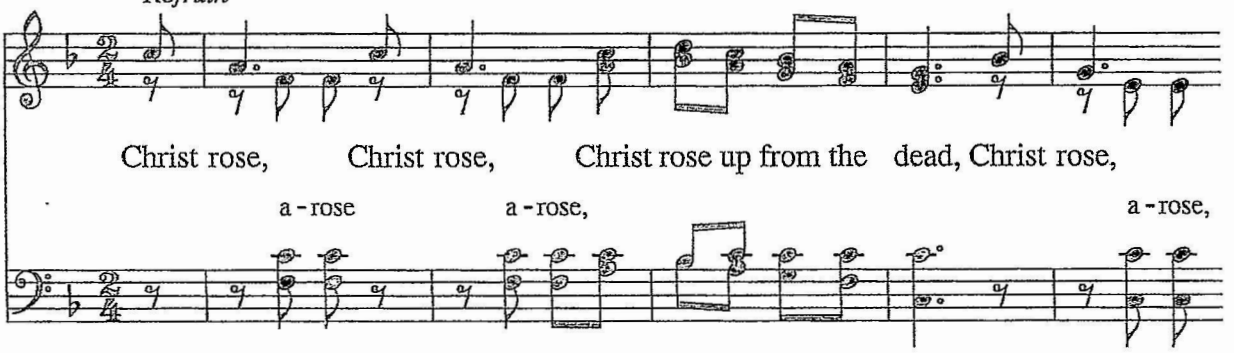
1/2

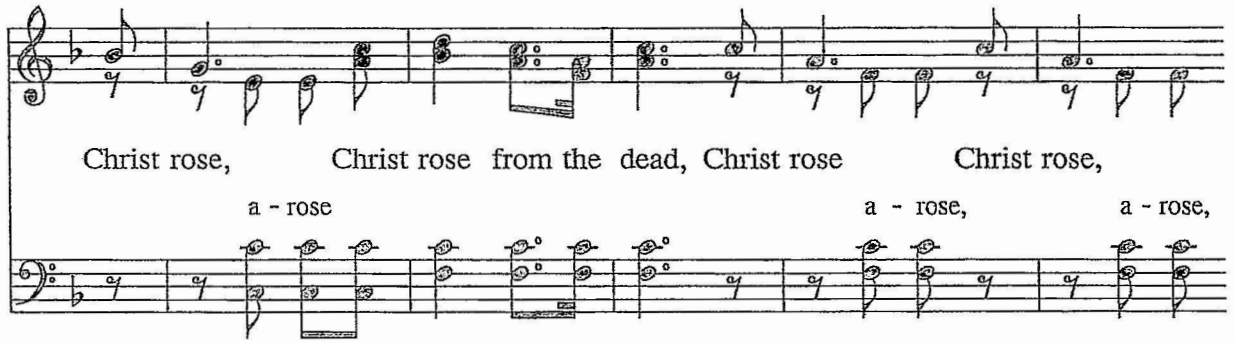
239 Christ Rose Up from the Dead

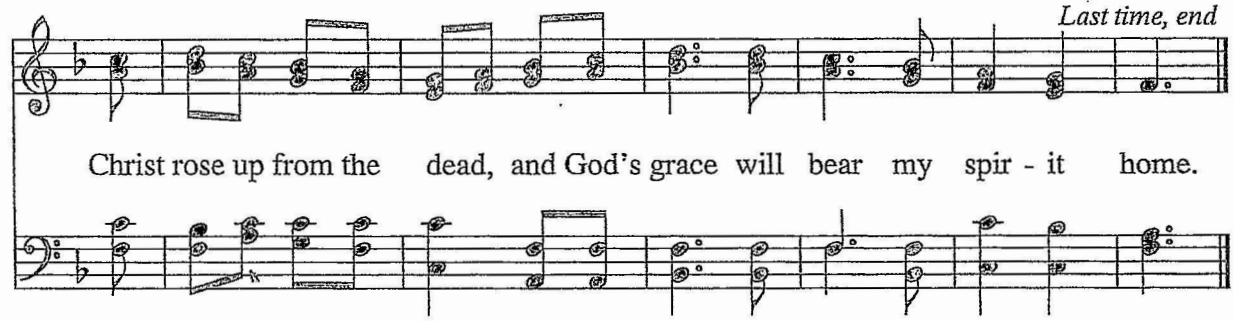
Matt. 28:2–6; John 19:16–18; 19:38–20:18

African-American traditional; alt.

Refrain







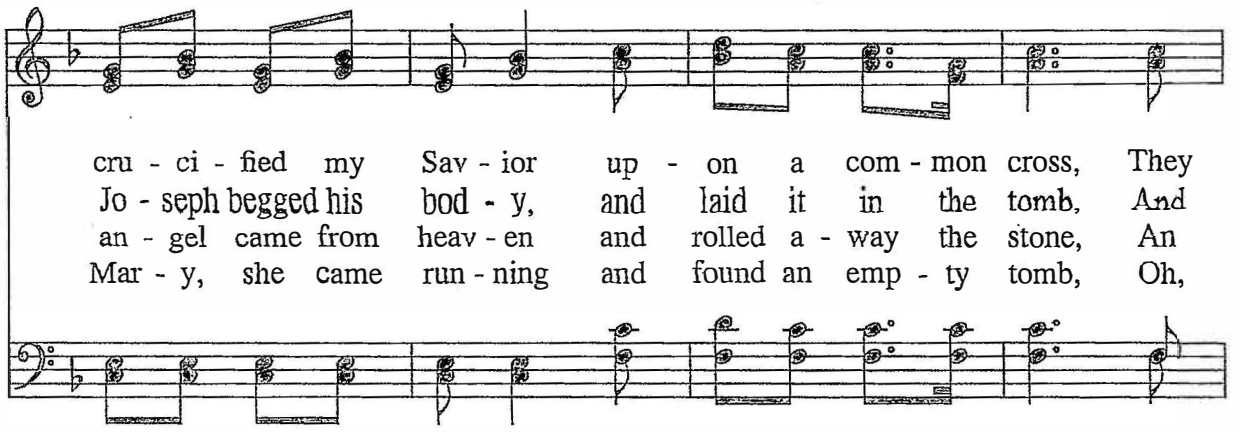
1 They cru - ci - fied my Sav - ior up - on a com-mon cross, they
2 And Jo - seph begged his bod - y, and laid it in the tomb, and
3 An an - gel came from heav - en and rolled a - way the stone, an
4 Oh, Mar - y, she came run - ning and found an emp - ty tomb, oh,

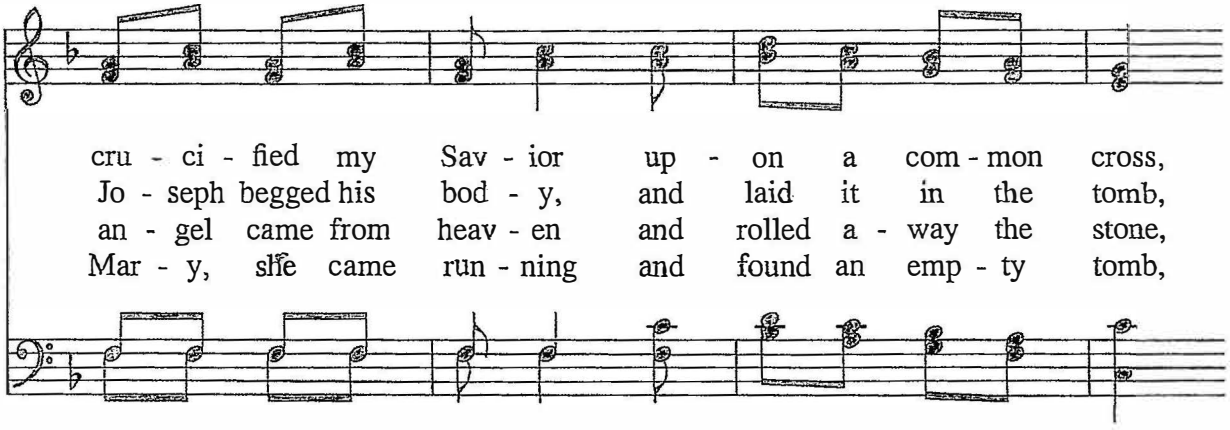
This jubilee song, collected by K. D. Reddick and arranged by Phil V. S. Lindsley, appeared around 1918 in shape note style in a collection titled The National Jubilee Melodies, *published by the National Baptist Publishing Board.*

Tune: ASCENSIUS 7.6.7.6.7.6.9. with refrain
African-American traditional
Arr. Phil V. S. Lindsley, 20th century

239

212


cru - ci - fied my Sav - ior up - on a com - mon cross, They
Jo - seph begged his bod - y, and laid it in the tomb, And
an - gel came from heav - en and rolled a - way the stone, An
Mar - y, she came run - ning and found an emp - ty tomb, Oh,


cru - ci - fied my Sav - ior up - on a com - mon cross,
Jo - seph begged his bod - y, and laid it in the tomb,
an - gel came from heav - en and rolled a - way the stone,
Mar - y, she came run - ning and found an emp - ty tomb,

This traditional Easter song is a simple retelling of the resurrection event, except that the final line makes it a personal affirmation. The text is not only a historical account but a personal witness to the power of the resurrected Christ.

This hymn is a standard in predominately African American churches and is used often for the opening of Easter Sunday services. The text reviews the events of Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Day. William Farley Smith suggests that it should be sung with unrestrained joy.

This tune was named ASCENSIUS by William Farley Smith, whose arrangement appears in *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989). The word is derived from *ascensus*, meaning to climb or rise. The sense of uplift is present not only in the words but also in the music.

255 Jesus, Sovereign, Savior

Luke 24:13–48; John 20:19–23

Patrick M. Kirkland (1857–1943); alt.

1 Je - sus, Sov - ereign, Sav - ior, once for sin - ners slain,
2 Faith-ful ones com - mun - ing towards the close of day,
3 In the up - per cham - ber, fol - low-ers, in fear,
cru - ci - fied in weak - ness, raised in power to reign,
des - o - late and wea - ry, met you on the way.
gath-ered sad and trou - bled, there you did ap - pear.
Dwell-ing now im - mor - tal, end-less in your days,
So, when sun is set - ting, come to us and show
Christ, be pres - ent with us, bid our sor - rows cease;
un - to you be glo - ry, hon - or, bless - ing, praise.
your truth, and with - in us make our hearts to glow.
breath - ing on us, Sav - ior, say, "I give you peace."

Patrick M. Kirkland ministered to a Presbyterian church in Cheshire, England, for forty years. Named for a village near Bristol, King's Weston *is one of several fine hymn tunes written by the English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams.*

Tune: KING'S WESTON 6.5.6.5.D.
Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1925

Music Copyright ©, Oxford University Press.

The Day of Resurrection

John of Damascus, 8th century
Transl. John Mason Neale, 1862; alt.

Mark 16:1–6

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.
From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,
our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
2 Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right
the Christ who reigns e - ter - nal in res - ur - rec - tion light;
We lis - ten for the teach - ings once heard so calm and plain,
for we, too, want to fol - low and raise the vic - tor strain.
3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,
the whole world keep high tri - umph, and all that is there - in;
Let all things seen and un - seen their notes of glad-ness blend,
for Christ a - gain has ris - en, our joy that has no end.

A Greek canon*—an extended poem of eight or nine odes, each based on a scriptural canticle—was the source of this hymn. John of Damascus gave up a high government position to enter a monastery.*

Tune: LANCASHIRE 7.6.7.6.D.
Henry T. Smart, 1836